

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01

AF-06 OPIC-03 AID-05 IO-10 /085 W

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R 291237Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5454

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 7654

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: MEDIA AND AFM-PARTIES PACT

REF: LISBON 7525 (DTG 181726Z DEC 75)

SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT RETURNED RADIO RENASCENCA TO CATHOLIC CHURCH DEC 28 AND "O SEculo" RESUMED PUBLICATION DEC 29 SHORN OF ITS COMMUNIST LINE. PS AND PPD

SPOKESMEN INDICATED SHAPE OF PARTIES' PROPOSED REVISIONS OF AFM-PARTIES PACT. BOTH PARTIES AGREE ON LIMITED, ADVISORY ROLE FOR A MILITARY COUNCIL, AND FAVORED DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT. END SUMMARY.

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1. MEDIA DEVELOPMENTS:

-- RADIO RENASCENCA: RADIO RENASCENCA, CHURCH-OWNED RADIO STATION TAKEN OVER IN MAY BY LEFTIST EMPLOYEES AND WHOSE TRANSMITTERS WERE DESTROYED BY GOVERNMENT NOV 7, WAS FORMALLY RETURNED TO CHURCH DEC 28.

-- "O SEculo": NEWSPAPER "O SEculo," PRIOR TO ITS SUSPENSION NOV 25 AMONG MOST VITRIOLIC OF COMMUNIST-LINING PRESS, RESUMED PUBLICATION DEC 29 UNDER NEW DIRECTORS WHO PROMISED "PATRIOTIC" ORIENTATION (SEPTel).

2. AFM-PARTIES PACT: SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) AND POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) PREPARED FINAL PROPOSALS FOR REVISION OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT (AFM)- POLITICAL PARTIES PACT FOR SUB-MISSION DEC 30. PS SPOKESMAN MARIO SOTTOMAYOR CARDIA TOLD PRESS DEC 29 THAT PS FAVORS POPULAR ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, BUT BELIEVES THIS SHOULD NOT BE MENTIONED IN PACT, BUT LEFT TO CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY. CARDIA SAID THAT PS FAVORED EXISTENCE OF ADVISORY COUNCIL SPECIALIZED IN MILITARY AFFAIRS, AND ON WHICH MILITARY INDIVIDUALS HAVE SEATS. PPD ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL RUI MACHETE TOLD PRESS THAT PPD BELIEVES THAT ELECTED PRESIDENT'S AUTHORITY SHOULD FALL BETWEEN THAT OF PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEMS. RUI MACHETE SAID THAT PARTICIPATION OF MILITARY IN POLITICAL LIFE SHOULD BE THROUGH NEW REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RC) WITH MEMBERSHIP FROM THREE SERVICE BRANCHES PLUS CIVILIANS INDIRECTLY ELECTED. RC WOULD HAVE RIGHT OF VETO OR DELAY ON CERTAIN TYPES OF LEGISLATION. PPD ALSO ADVOCATES TRANSFER OF RIGHT TO PASS ON CONSTITUTIONALITY OF LAWS FROM RC TO SUPREME COURT.

3. ANGOLA: LEFTIST-INDEPENDENT "DIARIO POPULAR" OF DEC 27 PICKED UP SAN DIEGO TRIBUNE STORY THAT MERCENARIES FOR SERVICE IN ANGOLA WERE BEING RECRUITED IN THE UNITED STATES. ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT AIR TICKETS OF 400 MERCENARIES RECENTLY SENT TO ANGOLA WERE PAID FOR BY CIA THROUGH THREE DIFFERENT INTER-MEDIARIES (SEPTel).

4. SOARES TRAVELS AGAIN: MARIO SOARES, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PS, WILL DEPART DECEMBER 29 FOR CARACAS. HE IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN JANUARY 3.

5. COMMENT: RETURN OF RADIO RENASCENCA TO CHURCH AND  
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PUBLICATION OF "O SEculo" UNDER NEW DIRECTORATE DEMONSTRATE CONFIDENCE OF GOVERNMENT, AND ITS CONTINUED INTENTION TO RE-ORIENT MEDIA. GIVEN LARGE NUMBER OF LEFTISTS STILL EMPLOYED BY "O SEculo" A POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER TURMOIL STILL EXISTS.

6. PS AND PPD WILL PRESENT MILITARY WITH ESSENTIALLY SIMILAR PROPOSALS FOR REVISION OF AFM-PARTIES PACT. BOTH FAVOR LIMITED, ADVISORY ROLE FOR A MILITARY COUNCIL, AND

DIRECT ELECTION OF PRESIDENT. NEGOTIATIONS WITH MILITARY OVER  
PACT WILL BEGIN IN EARNEST AFTER NEW YEAR.  
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## Message Attributes

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